

T H E

Whole Tryal and Examination of
Dr. *Welton*, Rector of *White-Chapel*,
and the Church-Wardens,

On Monday last, in the Bishop of London's Court;
For setting up the New Altar-Piece there.
With the Sentence pass'd thereon.

ON Monday the 26th Instant, came on a Hearing in the Bishop of London's Court, between Dr. *Kennet*, Apellant, and Dr. *Welton* and the Church-Wardens of St. Mary's *White-Chapel*. Respondents, before the Right Worshipful Dr. *Newton*, Chancellor of London, concerning the new Altar-Piece erected in the said Church; wherein was Represented the Supper of our Blessed Saviour, and *Judas Iscariot* sitting in the Habit of a Clergy-man of the Church of England.

The Council for the first of these two Gentlemen urged the heinousness of the Crime, and the Offence it gave to all good Christians, that such a monstrous Act of Impiety should be committed in a Place so sacred as that where was Commemorated our Blessed Saviour's Death and Passion; and made it their endeavour to prove by several Instances, That that Arch-Traytor and Betrayer was never before drawn in any such Habit, since the Garment of the Apostles were quite different from those which are now in use with their Successors: and, to strengthen their Argument, said, That the whole Piece was unnatural, St. John being depicted like a meer Boy: From whence they drew this Inference, That it was done with a malicious Intent to Affront and cast an Odium upon one of the Dignitaries of the Church. To this it was answer'd on the Part of the Defendant, by Dr. *Henchman*, a Celebrated Civilian, That it did not appear that *Judas* was drawn in the Habit of a Clergy-man; or if it should be so thought, that it Reflected upon the Person it was suppos'd to be design'd for; And that he would undertake to produce an Original Piece, painted above a hundred years ago, after the Resemblance of this. He also alledg'd, That the Picture was so far from being Unnatural, on account of St. John's Youth, that it rather came up to the Rules of true Sculpture, &c.

But the Matter being left to the Judge, and it being prov'd that the Bishop's Consent ought first to have been had before the Altar-Piece was erected, tho' Dr. *Newton* had before represented to my Lord of London, with Mr. *Alexander* the Register, That there was nothing Offensive in it, he gave it as his Definitive Sentence, That it ought to be pull'd down; and the said Altar-piece is to be pull'd down accordingly.

Note, Dr. *Welton* prov'd he was out of Town when the Altar-Piece was put up and has since Appeal'd the Court of Delegates.